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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATIONS**

Art Unit: 1761 (Examiner Keith D. Hendricks)
Applicant: ALDRICH et al.
Serial No: 09/675,825
Filed: September 29, 2000
Title: SWEET STABLE ACIDIFIED BEVERAGES
Our File: 98/080 NUT

Charlotte, North Carolina
December 6, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sirs:

In response to the outstanding Office Action dated June 6, 2002 kindly consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 14 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) An acidified beverage comprising:
(a) water;

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DEC 06 2002
GROUP 1700